

CLAIMS:

1. A database creation method, comprising:
extracting character information from source information;
extracting word information from the character information; and
creating a database based on the word information.
2. The database creation method according to claim 1, further comprising:
retrieving, as the source information, at least one of a page which is retrieved on a predetermined communication network and a page which is browsed thereon.
3. The database creation method according to claim 1, further comprising:
retrieving electronic mail information as the source information.
4. The database creation method according to claim 1, further comprising:
retrieving an image signal as the source information; and
extracting the character information from the image signal through character recognition.
5. The database creation method according to claim 1, further comprising:
retrieving a data file which has been stored in a storage device or a recording medium as the source information.
6. The database creation method according to claim 1, further comprising:
sequentially and individually setting flags to respective character information pieces extracted from the source information.
7. The database creation method according to claim 6, further comprising:
judging whether the extraction of the character information from the source information has been performed according to the flag which already has been set.

8. The database creation method according to claim 1, further comprising:

collating the extracted word information with word information in an existing database; and

adding and registering the extracted word information to the existing database when the extracted word information does not exist in the existing database.

9. The database creation method according to claim 8, further comprising:

judging whether the existing word information is identical to the word information having an uppermost priority when the extracted word information exists in the existing database; and

updating the existing database according to the extracted word information when the extracted word information is not identical to the word information having the uppermost priority.

10. The database creation method according to claim 8, further comprising:

judging whether a change of the existing database is allowed; and

performing the change of the existing database only when the change of the existing database is allowed.

11. The database creation method according to claim 10, further comprising:

making a judgment about the presence/absence of setting of change confirmation when the existing database is changed; and

generating a predetermined confirmation message when the setting of the change confirmation has been made.

12. The database creation method according to claim 1, further comprising:

associating reading of the extracted word information and the word information with each other to create the database.

13. A database creation apparatus, comprising:

a character information extracting section which extracts character information from source information;

a word information extracting section which extracts word information from the character information; and

a creation section which creates a database from the word information.

14. The database creation apparatus according to claim 13, further comprising:

a connecting section which connects to a predetermined communication network; and

a source information retrieving section which retrieves, as the source information, at least one of a page which is retrieved on a predetermined communication network and a page which is browsed thereon.

15. The database creation apparatus according to claim 13, further comprising:

a source information retrieving section which retrieves electronic mail information as the source information.

16. The database creation apparatus according to claim 13, further comprising:

a source information retrieving section which retrieves an image signal as the source information, and

wherein the character information extracting section extracts the character information from the image signal through character recognition.

17. The database creation apparatus according to claim 13, further comprising:

a source information retrieving section which retrieves a data file stored in a storage device or a recording medium as the source information.

18. The database creation apparatus according to claim 13, further comprising:

a flag setting section which sequentially and individually sets flags to respective character information pieces extracted from the source information.

19. The database creation apparatus according to claim 18, further comprising:

a judging section which judges whether the

extraction of the character information from the source information has been performed according to the flag which already has been set.

20. The database creation apparatus according to claim 13,

wherein the creation section collates the extracted word information with the word information in an existing database, and when the extracted word information does not exist in the existing database, the extracted word information is added and registered into the existing database.

21. The database creation apparatus according to claim 20,

wherein when the extracted word information exists in the existing database, the creation section further judges whether the extracted word information is identical to the word information having an uppermost priority which has been set in the existing database, and when the extracted word information is not identical to the word information having the uppermost priority, the existing database is updated on the basis of the extracted word information.

22. The database creation apparatus according to claim 20,

wherein the creation section judges whether a change of the existing database is allowed, and the change of the existing database is made only when the change of the existing database is allowed.

23. The database creation apparatus according to claim 22, further comprising:

a change confirming section which, when the existing database is changed, makes a judgment about the presence/absence of setting of change confirmation; and which, when the setting of the change confirmation has been made, generates a predetermined confirmation message.

24. The database creation apparatus according to claim 13,

wherein the creation section associates the reading of the extracted word information and the word information with each other to create the database.

25. A computer-readable recording medium on which a database creation processing program to be executed by a computer has been recorded, the database creation processing program comprising:

extracting character information from the database;

extracting word information from the character information; and

creating a database from the word information.

26. The computer-readable recording medium according to claim 25, wherein the database creation processing program further comprises:

retrieving, as the source information, at least one of a page which is retrieved on a predetermined communication network and a page which is browsed thereon.

27. The computer-readable recording medium according to claim 25, wherein the database creation processing program further comprises:

retrieving electronic mail information as the source information.

28. The computer-readable recording medium according to claim 25, wherein the database creation processing program further comprises:

retrieving an image signal as the source information; and

extracting the character information from the image signal through character recognition.

29. The computer-readable recording medium according to claim 25, wherein the database creation processing program further comprises:

retrieving a data file which has been stored in a storage device or a recording medium as the source information.

30. The computer-readable recording medium according to claim 25, wherein the database creation

processing program further comprises:

sequentially and individually setting flags to respective character information pieces extracted from the source information.

31. The computer-readable recording medium according to claim 30, wherein the database creation processing program further comprises:

judging whether the extraction of the character information from the source information has been performed according to the flag which already has been set.

32. The computer-readable recording medium according to claim 25, wherein the step of creating the database further comprises:

collating the extracted word information with word information in an existing database; and

adding and registering the extracted word information to the existing database when the extracted word information does not exist in the existing database.

33. The computer-readable recording medium according to claim 32, wherein the step of creating the database further comprises:

judging whether the existing word information is identical to the word information having an uppermost priority when the extracted word information exists in the existing database; and

updating the existing database according to the extracted word information when the extracted word information is not identical to the word information having the uppermost priority.

34. The computer-readable recording medium according to claim 32, wherein the step of creating the database further comprises:

judging whether a change of the existing database is allowed; and

performing the change of the existing database only when the change of the existing database is allowed.

35. The computer-readable recording medium according to claim 34, wherein the database creation

processing program further comprises:

- making a judgment about the presence/absence of setting of change confirmation when the existing database is changed; and

- generating a predetermined confirmation message when the setting of the change confirmation has been made.

36. The computer-readable recording medium according to claim 25, wherein the step of creating the database further comprises:

- associating the reading of the extracted word information and the word information with each other to create the database.

37. A database creation processing program to be executed by a computer, comprising:

- extracting character information from the database;

- extracting word information from the character information; and

- creating a database from the word information.